

**U.S. Department of Labor  
Office of Youth Opportunities (OYO)  
Youth Opportunity Grant (YOG) Technical Assistance Update**

**Issue 2  
September 8, 2000**

The U.S. Department of Labor Office of Youth Services/Office of Youth Opportunities (OYO) brings you the Youth Opportunity Grant (YOG) Technical Assistance Update. On a bi-weekly basis, the update will provide important announcements and information for YOG sites, partners, and coaches.

Please let us know if these updates are useful to you and how it might be improved to better serve your needs. If you have information or items to contribute, or topics that you would like see covered, please contact Susan Rosenblum, Office of Youth Opportunities, at [srosenblum@doleta.gov](mailto:srosenblum@doleta.gov).

We encourage you to forward these updates to your partners, staff, and others who are working with your site.

**In this issue:**

- YOG Performance System Training - Reminder!
- Working with "Jobs for America's Graduates"?
- Secretary Herman's Labor Day Remarks Highlight Youth Opportunity Grants
- Youth Councils
- YOG Outreach and Recruitment
- National Undoing Racism Rally - September 20, 2000
- White House Conference on Youth Violence

**YOG PERFORMANCE SYSTEM TRAINING - REMINDER!!**

The YOG Performance System trainings will take place in San Francisco on September 14, Kansas City on September 19 and Washington, DC on September 20. It is expected that all grantees will send one or two representatives to attend one of these three training sessions. **If you have not already done so, please contact Lori Green at DTI at (703) 299-1614 to sign your site's representatives up for one of these meetings as soon as possible.**

**WORKING WITH JOBS FOR AMERICA'S GRADUATES (JAG)?**

If your YOG site is working with Jobs for America's Graduates (JAG) at the local level, please e-mail Karen Clark at [\*\*kclark@doleta.gov\*\*](mailto:kclark@doleta.gov) **as soon as possible**, with just a brief explanation of the connection. Thanks so much.

## **SECRETARY HERMAN'S LABOR DAY REMARKS HIGHLIGHT YOUTH OPPORTUNITY GRANTS**

In her annual Labor Day speech, "The State of the American Workforce 2000: Great Possibilities and Open Doors," U.S. Department of Labor Secretary Alexis Herman hailed the Youth Opportunity Movement at the Department of Labor as an example of how the Department is investing "in our young people to give them better opportunity, to give them a better future."

To read the full speech by Secretary Herman, go to the Department of Labor Home Page at <http://www.dol.gov> and [click on "Secretary Herman's Labor Day Speech."](#)

## **YOG OUTREACH AND RECRUITMENT**

YOG sites are starting to do outreach and recruitment as centers plan to open over the next month. OYO wants to build a "resource library" with materials and "best practices" for all Youth Opportunity Grantees. Please send us examples of the following:

- 1. Outreach and recruitment flyers, public service announcements, and intake forms;**
- 2. Contracts with partners and/or suggestions for how to provide services to youth from outside the target area who may show up at the YO Centers/satellite sites;**
- 3. Models of involving youth in planning center activities, policies, and procedures. The Buffalo YOG site has been holding focus groups with youth to get their ideas on what a "Code of Conduct" might include. For more information, contact Vivian Turner at 716-885- 9840 or email: [vivian\\_turner@hotmail.com](mailto:vivian_turner@hotmail.com)); and**
- 4. Sample job descriptions for YOG staff positions.**

## **YOUTH COUNCILS**

OYO is starting to receive calls from local Workforce Investment Boards (WIBs) to find out if we can provide models/best practices for Youth Councils that are now required under the Workforce Investment Act (WIA).

Do you know of any good examples, either in your city or elsewhere?

If you do, please contact: Laura Heald, Office of Youth Opportunities, at (202) 693-3592 or email: [lheald@dol.gov](mailto:lheald@dol.gov).

## **NATIONAL UNDOING RACISM DAY - SEPTEMBER 20, 2000**

National League of Cities (NLC) President Bob Knight, Mayor of Wichita, KS, is urging cities and towns throughout the nation to join with NLC in a "National Undoing Racism Day" campaign on September 20. More than 300 cities are planning to participate. City leaders will issue proclamations, hold press events, and participate in rallies and marches to show support for racial equality and to showcase racial justice programs in their own communities.

NLC will hold an "Undoing Racism Rally" on September 20, 2000, Noon - 1:30 p.m. at Freedom Plaza, 14<sup>th</sup> and Pennsylvania, NW, in Washington, DC. The events are part of NLC's ongoing Campaign to Promote Racial Justice.

National Undoing Racism Day has two goals: first, to spotlight the issue of racism and the problems that many people of color are still subjected to; and second, to highlight what cities across the country are already doing to bring about awareness and promote racial equality.

Several cities that have signed on to the National League of Cities (NLC) Campaign to Promote Racial Justice are also sites for Youth Opportunity Grants. They include: Anchorage, AK; Denver, CO; Washington, D.C.; Albany, GA; Louisville, KY; Detroit, MI; Bronx, NY; Maxton, NC; Portland, OR; Houston, TX; and Seattle, WA.

To find out if your city has events planned for September 20 as part of NLC's "National Undoing Racism Day," or for more information on the rally, contact John Pionke, (202) 626-3051 (email: [pionke@nlc.org](mailto:pionke@nlc.org)) or Sharon Anderson, (202) 626-318 (email: [anderson@nlc.org](mailto:anderson@nlc.org)).

#### **WHITE HOUSE CONFERENCE ON YOUTH VIOLENCE**

The White House Conference on Youth Violence is looking for examples of youth violence prevention and intervention practices that are being employed by YOG practitioners. This information will be added to its planned Resource Center.

Please forward any such examples, practices, useful materials and resource contacts to Richard Morris at [rmorris@doleta.gov](mailto:rmorris@doleta.gov) or contact Richard Morris at (202) 693-3603